

	<p>California Public Utilities Commission <i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></p>
	<p>East County (ECO) Substation Project</p>
	<p>Compliance Status Report: 039</p> <p>September 28, 2014</p>

SUMMARY

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR/EIS) for the East County (ECO) Substation Project. The CPUC has established a third-party monitoring program and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP) to ensure that measures approved in the FEIR/EIS to mitigate or avoid significant impacts are implemented in the field. This MMCRP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities on the project, a summary of site inspections conducted by the CPUC’s third-party monitors, the compliance status of mitigation measures required by the MMCRP, and anticipated construction activities. This compliance status report covers construction activities from September 15 through September 28 2014.

MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations along the right-of-way associated with the 138 kV Underground Transmission Line, 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line, East County Substation and Boulevard Substation Rebuild. Areas of active and inactive construction within the project limits were observed to verify implementation of the mitigation measures stipulated in the project’s MMCRP. Daily observations were documented on daily site inspection forms and applicable mitigation measures were reviewed in the field.

Implementation Actions

138 kV Underground Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of repair and maintenance of erosion and sediment control devices along the right-of-way; splicing fiber optic cable; splicing within vaults; finish-grading; backfilling around concrete vault pads; and pulling cable between vaults.

Restoration efforts were observed being completed in accordance with MM-BIO-1d and the associated Habitat Restoration Plan. Crews were observed re-contouring construction areas to pre-construction contours and elevations. Upon completion, crews were observed removing erosion control straw wattles (see Attachment A – Photo 1). The restoration areas will continued to be monitored and measures implemented until success criteria is reached, which includes at least 60 percent of total vegetation cover to be achieved for each plant community, relative to the adjacent reference site with similar vegetation.

Traffic control measures including informational signs and flaggers were observed in place along Jewel Valley road to support truck hauling activities (gravel base) in accordance with MM-TRA-1 (see Attachment A – Photo 2). Class II base was spread along the Section 1 138 kV Underground Transmission Line ROW during this reporting period.

138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of erection of steel structures; maintenance and repair of the erosion and sediment control devices throughout all active pole sites; jacking steel poles; welding of grounding tabs and jack nuts on steel poles; continued installation of grounding at steel poles; installation of travelers and insulators on steel poles, and installation of permanent drainage features adjacent to pole pads.

Biological monitors were onsite to ensure construction activities remained within the approved work limits and to monitor for sensitive wildlife species (MM-BIO-1a and MM-BIO-1c). All excavations, such as excavations associated with the 138kV overhead line grounding poles were inspected daily prior to construction activities and throughout the day to ensure that no wildlife species had become entrapped in accordance with MM-BIO-7e (see Attachment A – Photo 3) and spoils from excavations were covered and secured in order to prevent erosion in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.

CPUC third party monitors observed activities associated with installing permanent drainage features, such as water dissipating rip-rap, and flumes (see Attachment A—Photo 4). Work limits were clearly delineated and erosion control devices were being maintained in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.

Dust control measures including watering down access roads during final grading activities along the overhead line were observed being implemented in accordance with the Dust Control Plan (MM-AQ-1) and MM-BIO-4a (see Attachment A—Photo 5).

Per the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan, SDG&E was observed inspecting equipment to ensure fire suppression equipment was present. Routine patrols were completed by the fire inspection team throughout the construction activities and fire tools were observed at all construction sites as required by MM-FF-1.

East County Substation

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of repair and maintenance of erosion and sediment control device and continued construction of the permanent water tank south of the 500 kilovolt (kV) substation pad.

Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattles, silt fence and gravel bags are being maintained in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1. In accordance with MM-BIO4-A and MM-AQ-1, water trucks were used to control dust along access roads, work areas, and commonly used routes within the substation boundaries.

Boulevard Substation Rebuild

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued installation of relay panels and equipment in the control shelter, continued installation of the blast walls, underground cable and permanent fencing.

Rattle plates have been installed at the point of ingress/egress to Old Highway were observed in good working condition and sediment track-out was not observed (see Attachment A – Photo 6).

In accordance with MM-VIS-3a, the perimeter security fence with attached screening material was observed in good working condition at the Boulevard Substation location. On September 18, CPUC third party monitors observed areas within the Jewel Valley and Carrizo Gorge yards that could use repair to the visual screening material along the fence line. This concern was expressed to SDG & E and repairs to the fence were observed the following week, as the screening material was found to be in good working condition by CPUC third party monitors.

Hazardous materials stored onsite were labeled and staged in proper containment bins per MM-HAZ-1a, and spill kits were readily accessible. Construction equipment and staged materials throughout the substation were equipped with drip pan containment as stipulated by MM-HAZ-1a. As required by MM-HAZ1-c, trash storage bins were equipped with covers to avoid dispersal due to weather or wildlife.

Mitigation Measure Tracking

Mitigation measures applicable to the construction activities were verified in the field and documented in the CPUC's mitigation measure tracking database. A complete list of mitigation measures and applicant proposed measures is included in the FEIR/FEIS for the ECO Substation Project, as adopted by the CPUC on April 19, 2012 (Decision 12-04-022).

Compliance

No non-compliances or deviations occurred during this reporting period.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site

Construction at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild is 90% complete.

ECO Substation Site Construction

Construction at ECO Substation is 97% complete.

138 kV Underground Construction

Construction crews have completed installation of all 39 vaults, 95% of cable has been installed, and 100% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled.

138 kV Overhead Construction

53 of 53 steel pole pads/spur roads and foundations have been completed and 53 of 53 poles have been erected. 5% percent of the wire has been installed.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

ECO Substation 500 kV and 230/138 kV Yards – SDG&E began construction activities in March 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

138 kV Underground Transmission Line – SDG&E began construction activities in October 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

138 kV Overhead Transmission Line – SDG&E began construction activities in November 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

Boulevard Substation Rebuild – SDG&E began construction in December 2012 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: In accordance with the Habitat Restoration Plan and MM-BIO-1d, crews were observed removing temporary straw wattles along the restoration areas of underground portion of the right-of-way.



Photo 2: Traffic control measures consisting of signage and flaggers were observed being implemented along Jewel Valley Road to support trucks hauling Class II road base in accordance with MM-TRA-1.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: Holes excavated for steel pole guard structures were observed covered to prevent wildlife entrapment in accordance with MM-BIO-7a and adjacent dirt stock piles were covered and secured to prevent erosion in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.



Photo 4: Continued installation of permanent drainage features (flumes) were observed installed along the pad sites associated with the 138kV overhead line in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: Crews were observed finishing grading activities associated with the access road along the overhead line. Water trucks were observed being utilized to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with MM-AQ-1 and MM-BIO-4a.



Photo 6: At the Boulevard Substation rebuild site, the point of ingress and egress connecting to Old Highway was observed free of sediment track-out in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1. Additionally, in accordance with MM-VIS-3a, the perimeter security fence's screening material was observed being maintained.

ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
BLM-001	February 11, 2013	A single geotechnical boring to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on lands administered by the BLM	Y
CPU -001	November 30, 2012	Abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site	Y
CPUC-002	February 1, 2013	Construction of a new substation (a 500 kV yard and a 230/138 kV yard)	Y
CPUC-003	February 1, 2013	Geotechnical Activities	Y
CPUC-004	March 4, 2013	Geotechnical Activities	Y
CPUC-005	May 21, 2013	Construction Yards	Y
CPUC-006	July 2, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line along Southern Access Road	Y
CPUC-007	July 30, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line within Old Highway 80 and Carrizo Gorge Road	Y
CPUC-008	August 2, 2013	Construction activities associated with the Boulevard Substation Rebuild	Y
CPUC-009	September 25, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line from Boulevard Substation to 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Y
CPUC-010	October 17, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line from Carrizo Gorge Road to Steel Pole 91	Y
CPUC-011	November 5, 2013	138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Y
CPUC-012	November 19, 2013	Fault Investigations at the Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) Loop-In	Y
CPUC-013	December 4, 2013	138 kV Overhead Transmission Line Steel Pole- 105B and Steel Pole-108A	Y
CPUC-014	March 18, 2014	Construction of Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) loop-in to connect the existing 500 kV SWPL transmission line to the ECO Substation site	Y

ATTACHMENT C

Minor Project Refinement Requests

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	January 25, 2013	Temporary Retention Basin	Approved	February 7, 2013
002	March 22, 2013	Adjustments to the Domingo Lake and Jewel Valley Construction Yards	Approved	May 20, 2013
003	March 22, 2013	Adjustments to the Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard	Approved	May 20, 2013
004	May 17, 2013	Adjustments to the Southern Access Road and 138 kV Overhead and Underground Transmission Line	Approved	June 26, 2013
005	June 27, 2013	Adjustments to the Boulevard Substation Rebuild	Approved	July 26, 2013
006	July 30, 2013	Adjustments to the 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Approved	September 23, 2013
007	August 16, 2013	Relocation of Temporary Retention Basin	Approved	August 22, 2013
008	August 20, 2013	Construction Water Use	Approved	October 1, 2013
009	November 22, 2013	Additional Temporary Work Space for Fence Replacement	Approved	November 26, 2013
010	December 19, 2013	Access Road and Work Space Refinements at Steel Pole 63 & 64	Approved	January 14, 2014
011	January 16, 2014	Temporary Meeting Location for Material & Equipment	Approved	January 22, 2014
012	February 27, 2014	Work Space Refinements to the Southwest Powerlink	Approved	March 11, 2014
013	April 4, 2014	Additional Temporary Work Space at 138kV Overhead Transmission Line	Approved	April 17, 2014